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District Man, CIA Silent On Law Suit

Both the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and a Greensburg insurance examiner were silent Friday concerning a suit filed by the area residents against a U.S. Treasury Department official over the secrecy of CIA funds.

William B. Richardson, 48, of 149 Westmoreland Ave., has filed suit in Federal Court in Pittsburgh against S. S. Sokol, commissioner of the treasury department's bureau of accounts, charging the official with not publishing an accurate statement of the cloak and dagger groups' finances because of provisions in the CIA Act of 1949.

Richardson, in essence, is charging the CIA Act is contrary to a provision of the U.S. Constitution which says: "No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time."

Richardson said Friday he had no further comment on the suit and a CIA spokesman said the agency never comments on published reports "of this kind."

If Richardson should win his suit, the CIA would be stripped of its financial secrecy and virtually driven out of business.

CPYRGHT